

Appn No. 10/791,716
Amdt. Dated June 02, 2005
Response to Office Action of April 25, 2005

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of April 25, 2005 the Applicant submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks directed thereto.

Claims 1 and 4-6 are currently pending in the present application. In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is further amended to clarify that a position of the floor is adjustable relative to the wall and the binding member(s) so that a plurality of bound documents can be formed by repeated operation of the binding member(s) and can be accommodated on the floor. Support for these amendments can be found at page 10, line 26-page 12, line 23 and in original (cancelled) claim 2 of the present application; and claims 4-6 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to nor any new issues to the prosecution of the present application.

35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of further amended independent claim 1 is fully described in the present specification, for at least the following reasons.

In light of the Examiner's comments regarding the lack of disclosure of a "means for driving" the floor of the binding mechanism in the present specification, the Applicant has further amended independent claim 1 to adopt the language used in original dependent claim 2, that the floor is adjustable relative to the wall and binding member(s) so as allow multiple bound volumes to be produced and stacked on the floor. This feature of the present invention is also fully discussed at page 2, lines 7-12 and page 12, lines 17-23 of the present specification.

35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the further amended independent claim 1, and claims 4-6 dependent therefrom, are definite, for at least the above and following reasons.

It is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art understands the manner in which the floor of the tray can be made adjustable so as to provide the function recited in amended claim 1.

It is further submitted that the subject matter of amended claim 1 remains novel and non-obvious over the cited references of record for at least the reasons discussed in the Applicant's response to the first Office Action.

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It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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